

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please **AMEND** claims 26, 27 and 29-31 as shown below.

Please **ADD** claims 35-41 as shown below.

The following is a complete list of all claims in this application.

1-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display (LCD), comprising:

a first insulating substrate;

a black matrix formed on said first substrate, wherein the black matrix is mesh-shaped
with and has opening portions at exposing pixel areas and disconnected at portions thereof;

an insulating layer formed on and covering both said first substrate and said black matrix;

a gate line assembly formed on said insulating layer, said gate line assembly comprising
gate lines proceeding in a horizontal direction, and gate electrodes connected to the gate lines;

a buffer layer covering a gap between the disconnected portions of the black matrix;

a gate insulating pattern formed on and covering both said insulating layer and said gate
line assembly;

a semiconductor pattern formed on said gate insulating pattern;

an ohmic contact layer formed on said semiconductor pattern;

a data line assembly formed on said ohmic contact layer, said data line assembly comprising a source electrode and a drain electrode separated from each other, and data lines connected to the source electrode while crossing over the gate lines to define the pixel areas; and
a protective layer covering said data line assembly and said gate line assembly while exposing said gate insulating pattern, said semiconductor pattern, and portions of said insulating layer placed at the pixel areas;

~~wherein the black matrix is disconnected at portions between two adjoining gate lines.~~

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~liquid crystal display~~ LCD of claim 26, further comprising a pixel electrode connected to the drain electrode, said protective layer having a first contact hole exposing the drain electrode, the connection of the pixel electrode to the drain electrode being made through the first contact hole.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~liquid crystal display~~ LCD of claim 27, wherein said black matrix comprises first portions overlapped with the gate lines, and second portions overlapped with the data lines, ~~and~~

~~the liquid crystal display further comprises a buffer layer covering the disconnected portions of the black matrix.~~

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~liquid crystal display~~ LCD of claim 27, wherein each pixel electrode has a peripheral portion overlapping said black matrix.

31. (Currently Amended) A method for fabricating a thin film transistor substrate for a liquid crystal display, comprising the steps of:

forming a black matrix on an insulating substrate, wherein the black matrix is mesh-shaped ~~and has~~ with opening portions ~~at~~ exposing pixel areas ~~and disconnected at portions thereof;~~

forming an insulating layer on the substrate such that the insulating layer covers the black matrix;

forming a gate line assembly on the insulating layer, the gate line assembly comprising gate lines proceeding in a horizontal direction, and gate electrodes connected to the gate lines, wherein the gate lines are narrower than the black matrix;

forming a buffer layer covering a gap between the disconnected portions of the black matrix;

depositing a gate insulating layer onto the insulating layer;

depositing a semiconductor layer onto the gate insulating layer;

forming an ohmic contact layer on the semiconductor layer;

forming a data line assembly on the ohmic contact layer, the data line assembly comprising a source electrode and a drain electrode separated from each other, and data lines connected to the source electrode while crossing over the gate lines to define the pixel areas, wherein the data lines are narrower than the black matrix;

depositing a protective layer onto the substrate such that the protective layer covers the data line assembly and the gate line assembly; and

forming opening portions exposing the insulating layer at the pixel areas through patterning the protective layer, the gate insulating layer and the semiconductor layer;
~~wherein the black matrix is formed disconnected at portions between two adjoining gate~~
lines.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, further comprising the step of forming pixel electrodes such that the pixel electrodes are connected to the drain electrodes,
wherein the step of forming the opening portions comprising a step of forming first contact holes exposing the drain electrodes being formed at the protective layer, and
the pixel electrodes are connected to the drain electrodes through the first contact holes.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein each pixel electrode has a peripheral portion overlapping with the black matrix.

35. (New) A liquid crystal display (LCD), comprising:
a substrate;
a black matrix formed on the substrate and disconnected at portions thereof;
a gate line formed on the substrate;
a data line intersecting the gate line; and
a buffer layer covering a gap between the disconnected portions of the black matrix.

36. (New) The LCD of claim 35, wherein the gate line is formed on the black matrix.
37. (New) The LCD of claim 35, wherein the black matrix is mesh-shaped.
38. (New) The LCD of claim 35, wherein the gate line and the buffer layer are formed on the same plane.
39. (New) A method for manufacturing a liquid crystal display, comprising steps of:
forming a black matrix layer on a substrate, the black matrix being disconnected at portions thereof;
forming a gate line on the black matrix layer;
forming a data line intersecting the gate line; and
forming a buffer layer covering a gap between the disconnected portions of the black matrix layer.
40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the steps of forming the gate line and the buffer layer comprise steps of:
forming a conductive layer;
patterning the conductive layer to simultaneously form the gate line and the buffer layer are formed.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the gate line and the buffer layer are electrically disconnected.